

Message Text

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61

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-03 AID-05 ERDA-05

NSC-05 INT-05 IO-10 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /058 W

----- 070990

R 251719Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6060

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPRO MO

SUBJECT: WATER DESALINATION PROJECT

REF: STATE 173499

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SUBJECT PROJECT JULY 17 WITH JOHN CANTON WHO SAID THAT HIS MCKAY COMPANY CONNECTION ENDED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT AND IMPLIED HE NOW REPRESENTS MECO.
 2. CANTON SAID THAT HIS CONTACT ON THE PROJECT IN ONE OF THE SECURITY AGENCIES HAD TOLD HIM THIS WEEK THAT TARFAYA WATER DESALTING PROJECT VERY MUCH ALIVE, HAVING BEEN TEMPORARILY SUBMERGED BY MORE PRESSING MATTERS. THE OFFICIAL HAD OPINED THAT PROJECT WOULD SUDDENLY RESURFACE AS URGENT HIGH PRIORITY WITHIN NEXT FEW WEEKS. CANTON EXPLAINED THAT SEVERAL OF THE KEY FIGURES WHOSE APPROVAL REQUIRED ARE OUT OF THE COUNTRY BUT DUE BACK WITHIN "A WEEK OR TWO". CANTON SAID THAT ONCE MOVEMENT STARTS, GOM WILL WANT EVERYTHING TO MOVE QUICKLY. ASKED WHETHER MECO HAS BEEN INFORMED OF FOREGOING, CANTON REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. HE THEN ASKED THAT WASHINGTON BE READY TO MOVE QUICKLY BUT HAD NO VIEWS OR SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHAT ROLE WASHINGTON WOULD HAVE TO PLAY.
 3. COMMENT: TARFAYA WATER PROJECT APPEARS TO BE TIED TO MOROCCAN CAMPAIGN FOR "RECOVERY" OF SAHARA. THIS WOULD PARTLY EXPLAIN INVOLVEMENT OF SECURITY OFFICIALS. PROJECT ALSO SEEMS
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ENTANGLED IN GOM BUREAUCRATIC STRUGGLES. IT IS THEREFORE

DIFFICULT TO FORESEE PRECISE TIMING. GOM INTEREST IS
NEVERTHELESS SERIOUS IN OUR VIEW AND WE WOULD GUESS THAT ACTION
WILL PROBABLY BE CALLED FOR SOMETIME THIS YEAR.
NEUMANN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DESALINATION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750258-0693
From: RABAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750721/aaaaasum.tel
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Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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Status: NATIVE
Subject: WATER DESALINATION PROJECT
TAGS: EIND, MO
To: STATE
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